

BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Austin Travis County Food Policy Board

Recommendation Number: (YYYYMMDD-XXX) (XXX is the agenda item number): Brief Description of the Topic

WHEREAS, the number of food insecure people in Travis County (17.3%) is higher than the national average (12.5%), making it critical to provide this population with constant and reliable access to food; and

WHEREAS, the current city policy requires charitable feeding programs to acquire and maintain a Food Establishment permit, though the majority of these programs are run by volunteers, who have limited time and financial resources as well as limited knowledge of the permitting requirements or the skills to successfully complete the process; and

WHEREAS, many charitable feeding programs are offered in borrowed spaces located inside of buildings where they have no legal authority to modify the physical space; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Travis County Food Policy Board is tasked with advising the Austin City Council and Travis County Commissioners' Court on the need to improve the availability of safe, nutritious, locally, and sustainably-grown food at reasonable prices for all residents, particularly those in need, by coordinating the relevant activities of city government

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Austin Travis County Food Policy Board encourages the Austin City Council to amend the Food Establishment permitting process for charitable feeding organizations in order to reduce the barriers of providing access to healthy foods for our community's vulnerable and food insecure populations.

Date of Approval:	
Record of the vote:	
Attest:	
(Staff or board member can sign)	